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13th October 1992

Our ref: PAB/CS/33442  
Your ref: PM1522

Dear Charles,

Your ref: PM 1522 - Our file: 33442

Thank you for your letter of 8th October.

I have looked again at this problem but it is not possible to predict when and where the first publication is going to occur. There are quite a number of countries in which this application has been filed where only formal examination of the application takes place and it then proceeds to acceptance and grant and some form of publication without any specific terms being established by law or procedure. The nature of the publication ranges from a full-scale publication to a mere notification of bibliographic details in an official journal.

We are quite unable to establish any estimates of when a case will proceed to publication in an individual country. I am fairly optimistic that given the delays inherent in prosecution in many of the smaller countries we are unlikely to have a damaging publication before the group of countries which publishes at 18 months. Unfortunately I cannot give any guarantees.

If you have a particular problem in mind and can specify a critical date we could circulate our associates and ask them to do what they can to avoid publication before that date. I think this is the best that we can do.

Yours sincerely,



P.A. Smith

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